





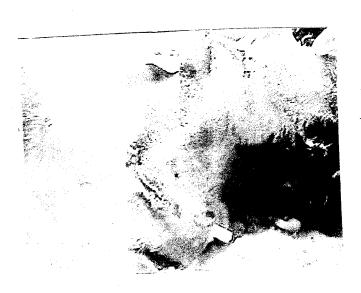


EXHIBIT 5

DATE 1-22-2009

HB 413 191









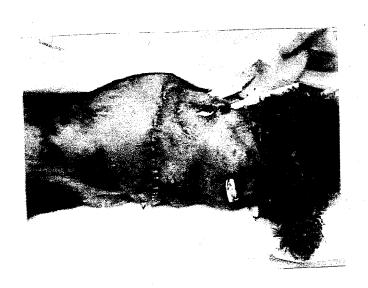




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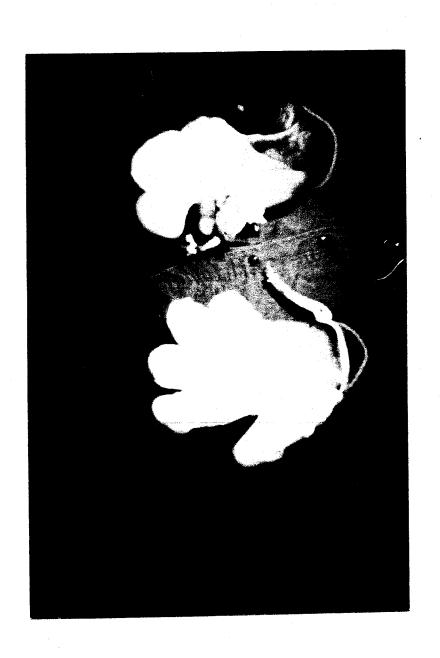




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I'M TOLD THAT I'M ONE OF THE LUCKY VICTIMS OF A PITBULL ATTACK. I'M STILL ALIVE.

PEOPLE WHO SAY THAT THEY WERE BIT BY A DOG, THEY MEAN THAT THEY WERE BIT. ANY DOG MIGHT BITE.

THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN ATTACKED USE THE WORD "ATTACKED" NATURALLY, WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT IT. BREEDS OTHER THAN PITBULLS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO ATTACK. BUT THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT THEY WILL STOP ATTACKING OR CAN BE PULLED OFF BY STRANGERS. A PITBULL KEEPS ATTACKING UNTIL IT KILLS OR IS KILLED, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE A GUN OR A KNIFE, MAYBE AN AXE, NONE OF WHICH A VICTIM IS LIKELY TO HAVE AT HAND.

MY ORDEAL BEGAN ONE NIGHT AS I WALKED MY LITTLE SHIH TZU DOG. BUSTER. WE WERE JUMPED FROM BEHIND AND KNOCKED DOWN BY A LARGE. UNLICENSED STAFFORDSHIRE PIT BULL THAT HAD COME FROM UNDER THE OWNER'S CHAIN LINK FENCE. IT THEN TRIED TO KILL BOTH OF US. I ONLY ENDED UP WITH PERMANENT DAMAGE TO BOTH OF MY HANDS.A FEAR OF WALKING PAST DOGS THAT SHOW ANY TYPE OF AGGRESSION, AND A FEAR OF JUST WALKING ON PUBLIC STREETS. I CARRY BEAR SPRAY ITHAT WILL WORK ON WILD BEARS BUT **WON'T WORK ON PITBULLS] AND A KNIFE. I FEEL IT'S** PRETTY BAD THAT A PERSON NEEDS TO ARM HIMSELF JUST TO GO FOR A WALK. WHEN I SAY THAT I'M ONE OF THE LUCKY SURVIVORS. I MEAN THAT I DIDN'T HAVE MY FACE RIPPED OFF BY A PITBULL'S FANGS. I WASN'T TORN TO PIECES OR DIED A HORRIBLE DEATH LIKE A LOT OF OTHER

VICTIMS OF PITBULL ATTACKS.

I WAS IN A FIGHT FOR MY LIFE AND FOR THE LIFE OF MY DOG WHEN I WAS ATTACKED.

IT TRIED TO TEAR OFF MY HANDS THAT I WAS USING TO KEEP IT FROM TEARING OFF MY FACE AND GETTING AT MY NECK. AT THE SAME TIME IT WAS RIPPING INTO BUSTER'S BODY. IT WAS TRYING TO KILL ANYTHING THAT IT COULD SINK ITS TEETH INTO. IT CAME CLOSE ENOUGH TO MY FACE THAT AT ONE POINT I BIT ITS EAR. I WAS TRYING ANYTHING TO GET IT OFF OF US. I STUCK MY INDEX FINGER ALL THE WAY IN ITS EYE. IT DIDN'T EVEN FLINCH, IT JUST CONTINUED TO ATTACK. JUST BEFORE THE OWNER FINALLY CAME OUT AND PULLED IT OFF OF US, BUSTER WENT LIMP. I'LL NEVER FORGET THE HELPLESS LOOK IN HIS EYES AS HE LOOKED UP AT ME.

I HAD TO LEAVE HIM WITH THE VETERINARIAN. THEY TOLD ME THAT THEY DIDN'T KNOW IF HE WOULD MAKE IT. BUT I HAD TO GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM TO TAKE CARE OF MY OWN INJURIES. BUSTER WAS KEPT ON LIFE SUPPORT FOR 2 DAYS BEFORE HE WAS STABLE ENOUGH TO BE PUT BACK TOGETHER. THE FIRST SURGERY HE HAD, HE NEEDED OVER 50 STAPLES TO REPAIR HIS WOUNDS AND TO HOLD HIS BODY TOGETHER. BUSTER REQUIRED ANOTHER SURGERY LATER ON AFTER HE HAD BECAME MORE STABLE.

I ENDED UP HAVING MY HANDS COVERED WITH BANDAGES AND SPLINTS FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS. THEN I WENT THROUGH PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR ANOTHER 6 MONTHS TO REGAIN AS MUCH USE OF MY HANDS AS POSSIBLE. IT'S PUSHING 1 YEAR SINCE I WAS ATTACKED. I'AM STILL IN NEED OF AT LEAST ONE MORE OPERATION TO FUSE MY FINGER SOLID TO HELP REDUCE THE CONSTANT PAIN IN MY LEFT

HAND, A PAIN THAT I WILL HAVE TO SUFFER WITH THE REST OF MY LIFE. MY RIGHT HAND ALSO HAS IRREPARABLE AND PAINFUL PERMANENT DAMAGE TO IT.

THE END RESULT IS BECAUSE OF A VICIOUS DOG, I'VE LOST THE ABLITY TO RETURN TO MY FORMER OCCUPATION. I'VE NEEDED TO RETURN TO SCHOOL TO LEARN NEW SKILLS TO CHANGE TO A NEW TYPE OF JOB THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO DO WITH THE LIMITATIONS I NOW HAVE WITH MY HANDS. AT THIS POINT IN MY LIFE IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG -TERM STRAIN ON ME, FINANCIALLY, PHYSICALLY, AND EMOTIONALLY.

I AM THE SECOND VICTIM TO BE SERIOUSLY INJURED BY A PITBULL IN A 6- MONTH PERIOD IN MY AREA. THE OTHER VICTIM WAS A 70- YEAR- OLD MAN WHO WAS JUST WALKING HOME. HE HAS BEEN IN A NURSING HOME EVER SINCE THE ATTACK, AND WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO LEAVE.

AS BAD AS MY ORDEAL WAS, THERE ARE COUNTLESS MORE HORRIFIC ATTACKS AND DEATHS THAT HAVE BEEN CAUSE BY PITBULLS.

THE ONLY WAY TO PROTECT OUR INNOCENT CHILDREN, OUR ELDERLY, OUR PETS AND OUR OURSELVES, IS TO BAN THE EVER- GROWING NUMBER OF THE PIT BULL BREED.

DOUGLAS RUEBKE



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